



# EMERGENCY NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center  
Camp Murray, Washington

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**For immediate release**

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## **State Fire Mobilization authorized for Spokane County wildfire**

CAMP MURRAY -- State fire assistance was mobilized Sunday tonight to support local firefighters working to contain a 1,300-acre wildfire threatening about 30 homes southwest of Cheney.

The State Fire Services Mobilization Plan was authorized at 7 p.m. Sunday by Maj. Gen. Timothy J. Lowenberg, director of the Washington Military Department. The plan is implemented to provide personnel, equipment and other resources from around the state when wildfires exceed the firefighting capacity of local jurisdictions.

Also at 7 p.m. Sunday, the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Camp Murray was activated. It is being staffed by personnel from the Washington State Patrol's Fire Protection Bureau and the Emergency Management Division of the Washington Military Department.

The Fire Protection Bureau will coordinate the dispatch of firefighters and equipment to support the fire fight. As of 9 p.m. Sunday, firefighters and equipment were en route to the fire from Spokane, Lincoln, Whitman, Grant, Chelan, Douglas, Yakima, Benton and Walla Walla counties. Firefighters from the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Spokane County fire districts also are battling the fire.

The State Enhanced 911 Office in cooperation with local telephone carriers reminds all citizens in the affected area to:

- Stay off the telephone unless you have a critical need to make a telephone call. Remember a FAX or a computer also uses a telephone line and its use may affect your ability to get immediate help in a life-threatening emergency.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unless you need an emergency response from police, fire or emergency medical personnel.
- If you experience other types of problems not related to these emergency services, call the appropriate telephone number for those services.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unnecessarily—it must be kept open for people who have a true emergency.
- If you pick up your telephone to make a call and do not hear dial tone, DO NOT HANG UP. Simply wait a few seconds, and you will get dial tone and be able to make your call.

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